

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This is in response to the official action dated October 18, 2004. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Drawings: There was no need to amend the drawings, because the "actuator" was shown as numeral 14. Instead, the specifications were amended to change numeral 17 to 14.

Specification: The abstract is amended along the recommendations of the Examiner and according to MPEP § 608.01 (b).

In addition, applicants amended the first paragraph referring to the cross-references.

Further, applicants amended the specifications to correct two typographical errors, that is, [0018] or page 6, line 2, changing 17 to 14 and [0020] or page 6, line 11, changing 9 to 8.

Claims: The claims have been amended to overcome § 112, first and second paragraph rejections. Applicants' thanks the Examiner for his careful review and suggestions. Concerning claim 1, lines 12-13, the Examiner quotes from the specification as stating "an actual length of the pressed article", however, it states "the actually attained length of the pressed article". Accordingly, the claim reflected "resulting pressed length" which applicants equated with "attained" length. In order to further comply, applicants amended the claim along the terminology used in the specification.

Double patenting: Claim 9 was rejected under the doctrine of double-patenting. A terminal disclaimer is enclosed with reference to Applicants' patent 6,782,595, which submission should overcome potential double patenting.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter and submit that the application is now in condition of allowance.

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If entry and consideration of the amendments above requires an extension of time, Applicants respectfully request that this be considered a petition therefor. The Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee(s) due in this connection to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess, to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

Respectfully submitted,
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Attachment/Enclosure: Terminal Disclaimer